AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-13 (Cancelled).

Claim 14 (Currently amended): A double-metal cyanide catalyst having the ~~general~~ formula $M^1_x([M^2_{x'}(CN)_y]_z \cdot [M^3_{(x)(y)}]) \cdot L^1 \cdot L^2 \cdot M^4_z$, wherein

M^1 represents at least one metal ~~salt~~;

$[M^2_{x'}(CN)_y]M^2$ represents at least one metal cyanide ~~salt~~;

M^3 represents at least one transition metal salt;

M^4 represents at least one alkali~~ne~~ metal salt, present in an amount within the range of from about 0.4 to about 6 wt .%, based on the total weight of the double metal cyanide catalyst;

L^1 represents at least one organic complexing ligand;

L^2 is optional and can represent at least one functionalized polymer;

and

x, x', y and z are integers ~~and are~~ chosen such that electroneutrality of the double-metal cyanide catalyst ~~exists~~is maintained.

Claim 15 (Currently amended): The double metal cyanide catalyst ~~of~~ according to Claim 14, wherein ~~which~~ at least one metal ~~salt~~ is zinc ~~chloride~~.

Claim 16 (Currently amended): The double metal cyanide catalyst ~~of~~ according to Claim 14, wherein ~~which~~ at least one metal cyanide ~~salt~~ is potassium hexacyanocobaltate (III).

Claim 17 (Currently amended): The double metal cyanide catalyst ~~of~~ according to Claim 14, wherein ~~which~~ at least one organic complexing ligand is tert-butyl alcohol.

Claim 18 (Currently amended): The double metal cyanide catalyst ~~of~~ according to

Claim 14, wherein ~~which~~ at least one alkali~~ne~~ metal salt is potassium chloride, sodium chloride, sodium bromide, lithium chloride or lithium bromide.

Claim 19 (Currently amended): The double metal cyanide catalyst ~~of~~ according to Claim 14, wherein ~~which~~ at least one functionalized polymer is present in an amount in the range of from about 2 to about 98 wt. %, based on the total weight of the double-metal cyanide catalyst.

Claim 20 (Currently amended): The double metal cyanide catalyst ~~of~~ according to Claim 14, wherein ~~which~~ at least one functionalized polymer is a polyether; polyester; polycarbonate; polyalkylene glycol sorbitan ester; polyalkylene glycol glycidyl ether; polyacrylamide; poly(acrylamide-co-acrylic acid), polyacrylic acid, poly(acrylic acid-co-maleic acid), poly(N-vinylpyrrolidone-co-acrylic acid), poly(acrylic acid-co-styrene) or their salts; maleic acid, styrene or maleic anhydride copolymers or their salts; polyacrylonitriles; polyalkyl acrylate; polyalkyl methacrylate; polyvinyl methyl ether; polyvinyl ethyl ether; polyvinyl acetate; polyvinyl alcohol; poly-N-vinylpyrrolidone; polyvinyl methyl ketone; poly(4-vinylphenol); oxazoline polymer; polyalkyleneimine; hydroxyethylcellulose; polyacetal; glycidyl ether; glycoside; carboxylic acid ester of polyhydric alcohol; bile acid or its salt, ester or amide; cyclodextrin; phosphorus compound; unsaturated carboxylic acid ester; or an ionic surface- or interface-active compound.

Claim 21-25 (Cancelled).